



MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana School Superintendents
Indiana High School Principals

FROM: Michele Walker, Director of Student Assessment
Dorothy Winchester, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

SUBJECT: Clarification regarding Biology I course completion and assessment requirements

DATE: February 22, 2008

This memorandum clarifies course completion and assessment requirements for Biology I.

Biology I Course Completion

Every student in a public or accredited nonpublic school, including a Freeway School, who entered high school in the 2006-2007 school year (or a subsequent school year) must earn two credits in Biology I in order to graduate.

Biology I End-of-Course Assessment

Every public school student, including a charter school student, who is enrolled in Biology I must take the Biology I End-of-Course Assessment (ECA), per federal law under No Child Left Behind. However, a student is not required to pass the Biology I ECA to graduate from high school.

Additionally, public and accredited nonpublic schools, including Freeway Schools, must give the ECA to every student who is enrolled in a course for which there is an ECA to be eligible for the top two category placements (exemplary and commendable) under the state's accountability system (Public Law 221). Current ECA information is available at www.doe.in.gov/core40eca.

Please refer to the *Indiana's Statewide Assessment System Questions-and-Answers* document posted at www.doe.in.gov/istep for additional information.